



Benefits of Donor Advised Funds

People and corporations make charitable contributions for many reasons:

- to give back to the community that made their success possible,
- to support causes they care about,
- to honor a friend or loved one, or
- to fulfill an intrinsic desire to give and to share.

Regardless of why you give, Community First Foundation provides a simple, flexible and economical way to manage your charitable contributions now and in the future. By channeling your gifts and bequests through the Foundation, you can continue to support all your favorite charities, plus reap some important benefits, including:

Convenience

You can achieve multiple charitable objectives by creating a flexible fund within the Foundation. Such funds are easy to establish and are cost-effective to operate. A single gift to Community First Foundation will simplify your charitable giving and eliminate the need for you to collect multiple receipts from each of the nonprofit organizations. You only report one gift to the IRS for tax purposes. The Foundation takes care of all the administration and paperwork thereafter – you are no longer responsible for government reporting, bookkeeping, or related paperwork.

Permanence

Your charitable interests will be carried out forever. Should the intended beneficiaries of your fund become obsolete, Community First Foundation will work to redirect your gift to a charity that works toward the same goals of the original beneficiary.

Tax Advantages

You receive an income tax or estate tax deduction immediately upon making your gift. Because Community First Foundation is a public charity, donations earn the maximum available deduction (*deductions for gifts to the Foundation can be significantly greater than those allowed for private foundations*). This way, more of your resources are available for community needs.

Recognition

Depending on your personal preference, you can receive recognition for all the gifts made to and from the fund you create, or you can remain completely anonymous. Anonymity is often difficult to maintain when giving individually or when working with or through a private foundation.

Professional Management

All assets are professionally managed according to investment policies established by the board. Your fund benefits from being pooled and invested with the Foundation's assets including

- lower management fees,
- greater investment diversification, and
- minimized investment risks.

Donors may recommend that their Donor Advised Fund be invested with the Investment Pool of the Community First Foundation. Community First Foundation's Investment Committee has established a recommended investment portfolio (50% Equity, 45% Fixed Income, 5% Cash). The Donor, however, may advise that the assets be allocated in a different manner (i.e., more or less risky) among our three investment pools:

- Equity
- Fixed Income (Bonds)
- Money Market

Funds with balances exceeding \$250,000 may advise the Foundation concerning the selection of a financial manager(s). All investments will be administered in accordance with the investment policies of Community First Foundation, and investments are subject to normal market and interest rate fluctuation risks. Any gain or loss generated by investments will be credited or charged to the Fund.

Charitable Impact

Deciding how to make your charitable dollars work in the most effective manner can require an informed understanding of the community and its needs. Our board and staff can assist you in making strategic decisions in creating a fund and by identifying philanthropic opportunities. We will be happy to acquire campaign information or financial reports for you to review before making a decision regarding a grant. Further, we can easily make appointments for you to meet with the leadership of any charity and tour their facilities so that you may know first-hand how your grant will affect the organization.

Grant-Making Assistance

Community First Foundation connects you with charitable organizations that correspond with your interests, and the due diligence of our grant making staff helps ensure that your giving has a positive impact on the community.

Flexibility and Choice

You may designate and advise how you want your gift to be used or, like many donors, you may entrust all or part of that decision to Community First Foundation's board. So that the fund you create is as effective today as it is tomorrow, Community First Foundation will stay current with developments in the community to ensure that your wishes as a donor are fulfilled. We will work with you and your successors in responding to the changes our community will inevitably make.

Simplicity

Community First Foundation will work with you and your advisors to set-up your fund. We then provide all administrative services such as accounting, auditing, financial management, due diligence, and grant making and receipting – while always keeping your goals in mind.

Public Accountability

An independent, certified audit is performed annually, and all the Foundation's work is publicized in our annual Community Benefit report. Our latest IRS Form 990 is available to the public by contacting the Foundation.